

Look At My God

Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" (Is. 40:9)

The 40th chapter of Isaiah has some breathtaking views of our God. We can see a God of might and power, but who tenderly tends for his flock like a shepherd. We behold a God who can measure the waters in the hollow of his hand, and the heavens with a span, and yet he stoops down to give power to the faint and strength to the one who has no might.

The gods of this world are presented in this chapter and throughout the rest of Isaiah as lifeless and powerless. We are reminded of our own weak and feeble nature as well. We are like grass whose beauty is transient. The word of our God, though, endures forever.

I'm convinced that if we could see things more clearly (and Isaiah is showing us things as they really are), that we would be much more excited about evangelism. We are good news tellers (i.e. evangelists). We have found the real thing! We have something solid. We have something that lasts. Our God is the answer. He is the reason for our being. He is our purpose for living. He gives everything and everyone meaning and hope and peace and joy.

If we'll climb the mountain and see God as Isaiah is describing him for us, then maybe evangelism won't seem so forced and awkward. It will feel spontaneous and natural.

We might even climb a mountain and shout it out: "Look at my God!" ~David Maxson

Kennewick Church of Christ

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Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; cbotts@hotmail.com

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; Vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449

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Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 07/26 29

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution 07/26 \$2047.00

August 02, 2020

Kennewick Church of Christ

What Are You Talking About?

So, what are the last words you say when you are leaving others? I find myself often ending a phone conversation with family members by saying, "Goodbye, I love you." Those words are not just meaningless words but are intended to remind those who are so precious to me that I cherish them.

Thinking about this led me to wonder what parting words were used by the writers of the epistles. I actually was amazed when I took time to look into this matter. Some of them ended their letters by sending greetings or expressing expectations to see others soon, but there is one phrase used consistently by Paul in his writings. Before reading more about the answer to this question, what phrase or phrases did Paul use as he ended his letters?

Paul's parting words in his epistles. To the Corinthians, he said, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus" and "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ . . . be with you all" (1 Cor. 16:23-24; 2 Cor. 13:14). As he finished his letter to the churches of Galatia, he said, "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit" (Gal. 6:18). He had preached in Ephesus for three years and ended the epistle to them by saying, "Grace be with all of those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity" (Eph. 6:24). To the Colossians, he said, "Grace be with you" (Col. 4:18). The apostle to the Gentiles ended both letters to the Thessalonians with "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you" (1 Thess. 5:28; 2 Thess. 3:18). He used the same words in the three epistles to younger preachers, "Grace be with you" (1 Tim. 6:21; 2 Tim. 4:22; Tit. 3:15). He finished that very personal letter to Philemon by saying, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." The same idea is found in the last verse of Hebrews, "Grace be with you all."

Paul's emphasis on grace. Should there be any wonder as to why Paul magnified grace in his letters? He constantly had to deal with Judaizing teachers who tried to bind the law on Gentiles. Even more overwhelming was Paul's realization that he, the chief of sinners, had received grace from God. The remembrance of His grace is the prime motivation for spiritual maturity (2 Pet. 1:8-9). He never wanted those around him to lose sight of the grace of God.

The emphasis of your words. What words, not just the parting ones, do people hear you mentioning most often? Do they ever hear a spiritual emphasis, or is it always on secular matters? One could not be around Paul without hearing about grace. What do those around you hear from you?

~ Dan Jenkins

Keep These Dates in Mind	July Birthdays and Anniversaries	
Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.	Debbie Bolt 8/8 Danny Mendoza 8/13 Clarence & Melinda Botts 8/13 Ron & Ila Stephens 8/13 Maddison Reeser 8/18 Bill & Fran Henniger 8/19 Merry Bunker 8/22	Harvey & Lynette Jones 8/25 Sue Minor 8/25 Eddie Petross 8/28 Bonnie Johnson 8/28

Please come and join us in our worship to God. We will be studying Matthew on Sunday Mornings and Ephesians on Sunday night,
Please be respectful of those who need to wear masks and practice social distancing because of health issues in their family.

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes Sunday a - O.T. Sunday p -Colossians Wed p -Thessalonians	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Cancelled until further notice
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Those of us who are struggling with long term and short-term illnesses. Let's not grow weary in asking God to heal and comfort them.

Panzoy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis Sandy Gray Bill and Fran Henniger Bill and Bonnie Johnson Linda Laferty Pat Lindsay	Karen McBurney Lupe Mendoza Shannon Mendoza Tami Pennington Eunice Petros Helen Pierce
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Our Ministries
Mountain States Children's Home
Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)
Peru Ministry - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit
Food Pantry - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.
"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

Zealous For Good Works

He was just six months from the cross when He saw the blind man whose affliction some attributed to his sins or those of his parents. Jesus seized the opportunity to show His compassion and then to teach that it is wrong to associate sickness with sin. His explanation for interrupting His plans for that day was, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work" (John 9:4). His zeal, His devotion to doing the will of God, is so needed by many Christians today.

We need to be zealous in honoring that which is holy. When Jesus saw the desecration of the temple, He made a whip and drove out all those who had robbed that holy place of its sacredness. As His disciples watched all this take place, they remembered the words of David and knew they applied to Jesus, "The zeal for Your house has eaten Me up" (Psa. 69:9; John 2:17). In an age of complacency and secularization of all that is holy, we, too, should be consumed protecting the holy.

We need to be zealous in protecting the integrity of the church. In the closing chapters of Isaiah, the Messianic prophet saw the church (Palm Beach Lakes) clothed with garments of salvation and robes of righteousness and adorned with jewels like a bride at her wedding (61:10). He saw us as the glorious crown in the hand of Jehovah and as a royal diadem ready to be placed on the head of God! When he imagined how others might hide her beauty and dim the lamp of righteousness and salvation shining from her, he said, "For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest" (62:1). O how the world would be changed if Christians were as Isaiah was for cherishing the glorious beauty of His bride. *O how we all should be concerned about her integrity!*

We need to be zealous in edifying the church. The church in Corinth was selfishly competing for spiritual gifts. They had elevated their own self-interests above the needs of the church. Paul said, "Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel" (1 Cor. 14:12). Christ did not shed His blood so I could put my own interest above the building up of the body of Christ. *The Lord wanted them to go beyond just being zealous and to reach the level of excelling!*

So what about you? Do you remember the zeal you had when you first obeyed the gospel? How does your present zeal compare to what it once was? God help us to let the zeal we have for His house, the church, consume us! ~Dan Jenkins

Philippians 2:12-18 begins with "therefore" (v. 12), building on the teaching in verses 1-11 to follow Jesus' humility and selfless and sacrificial example as we live out this Christlike life. In instructing us to "continue to work out [our] salvation with fear and trembling" (v. 12), Paul isn't saying that we're to work for our salvation, for our salvation is a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8-9). Rather, Paul reminds us of our responsibility as believers in Jesus. Now that we're saved, we're to "work hard to show the results of [our] salvation" (Philippians 2:12). By the empowerment of the Spirit, we're to "produce fruit in keeping with repentance" (Matthew 3:8), to show to the world that we're "blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation,' " and to shine "like stars in the sky" in a world darkened by sin (Philippians 2:15). ~K. T. Sim